



## **THE AMERICAN POWER ACT: WHAT THEY'RE SAYING**

"I applaud Senators John Kerry and Joe Lieberman for their tireless work in drafting this important legislation. This legislation will put America on the path to a clean energy economy that will create American jobs building the solar panels, wind blades and the car batteries of the future. It will strengthen our national security by beginning to break our dependence on foreign oil. And it will protect our environment for our children and grandchildren. Americans know what's at stake by continuing our dependence on fossil fuels. But the challenges we face - underscored by the immense tragedy in the Gulf of Mexico -- are reason to redouble our efforts to reform our nation's energy policies. For too long, Washington has kicked this challenge to the next generation. This time, the status quo is no longer acceptable to Americans. Now is the time for America to take control of our energy future and jumpstart American innovation in clean energy technology that will allow us to create jobs, compete, and win in the global economy. The House of Representatives has already taken historic action with passage of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. I look forward to engaging with Senators from both sides of the aisle and ultimately passing a bill this year."

- President Barack Obama

"The 'American Power Act' represents an important step toward a strong national energy policy, and GE applauds Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their leadership on an issue that is critical to the future of our nation and our economy. National energy policy must drive the accelerated deployment of new technologies in the United States if America is to compete and win in the global race for clean energy technology leadership. GE supports the process Senator Kerry and Lieberman have initiated today. We stand ready to work with them and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle on the substance and details of final legislation."

- Statement from General Electric

"The American Power Act is essential to strengthening our national security. Military leaders of every stripe have confirmed that America's dependence on hostile nations for oil puts money in the pockets of our most dangerous enemies. This bill will defund terror and make the world a safer place for our troops. America's military leadership - at the Defense Department, the CIA, and the National Intelligence Council - have all identified climate change and oil dependence as security threats. Now is the time for politicians in Washington to follow their lead."

- Statement from Operation Free, a coalition of veterans and national security organizations

“The growing oil catastrophe in the Gulf and the Massey mine disaster have demonstrated beyond any reasonable doubt that we must start now to end our dangerous dependence on dirty energy, move toward safe and clean energy, and steadily cut carbon pollution. The bill released today by Senators Kerry and Lieberman marks an important step toward passage of comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation by the Senate. Senators Kerry and Lieberman understand that Congress must enact a comprehensive clean energy and climate bill this year that puts America in control of our energy future. The core carbon pollution limits in the bill, covering all major pollution sources, are a solid foundation for Senate legislation.”

- Frances Beinecke  
President, National Resources Defense Council

“Senators Kerry and Lieberman are to be commended for a plan that recognizes the economic and national security threat of our ever-increasing dependence on foreign oil, particularly OPEC oil. Achieving energy security is not easy and I applaud their focus on a broad energy package that includes replacing foreign oil/diesel/gasoline with cleaner, abundant domestic natural gas in America’s heavy duty fleets. I look forward to working with them in the coming weeks to focus attention on that aspect of their legislation. Using natural gas as a transportation fuel is a non-partisan issue. The time to act is now.”

- T. Boone Pickens  
*Energy expert and creator of the Pickens Plan*

“The Chamber supports efforts to address energy security and climate change, and believes that any legislation must be comprehensive and bipartisan, and take into account a wide spectrum of issues including American jobs and our economy. We thank Senators Kerry and Lieberman, as well as Senator Graham, for their work to constructively engage the business community on these issues.”

- R. Bruce Josten  
*U.S. Chamber of Commerce executive vice president of Government Affairs*

“I applaud the efforts of Senators Kerry and Lieberman to develop a proposal that deserves careful consideration by all Senators and the public. The recent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico demonstrates the urgent need to free our nation from its heavy dependence on oil and to create new clean energy industries and technologies. All Americans would benefit from a comprehensive national energy plan that creates millions of clean energy jobs, improves our national security and reduces pollution. As I work with Senators Kerry and Lieberman, the relevant committee chairs and the White House to move this process forward, I welcome the

ideas of my colleagues to strengthen this proposal. To be successful we will need significant bipartisan cooperation, and I am hopeful Republicans will join us in working to further develop this bill so that it has broad support and can pass this year.”

- Senator Harry Reid  
*Senate Majority Leader*

“The USW has long believed that the goals of stopping the threat of climate change and creating thousands of clean energy jobs can and should be two sides of the same coin. Climate change legislation, done properly, has the potential to create new and expanding opportunities for revitalizing manufacturing and job creation in this country. The USW is pleased that U.S. Senators John Kerry and Joe Lieberman have included a variety of key provisions in their discussion draft of the American Power Act, including the crucial anti-leakage provisions. We look forward to continuing a productive working relationship that will hopefully result in a comprehensive bill in the Senate that reduces greenhouse gasses and creates the new clean energy jobs of the future, while retaining existing American manufacturing jobs.”

- Leo W. Gerard  
*International President, the United Steelworkers (USW)*

“Passage of comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation will allow the U.S. to be a worldwide leader in the next great global industry, green technologies. This pragmatic framework is crucial to the success of American entrepreneurship and will ensure a cleaner, stronger and more secure future for us all.”

- John Doerr  
*Partner at venture capital firm, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers*

“In order for the U.S. to compete in this global economy, there needs to be a price on carbon. A price on carbon will level the playing field and give businesses the certainty they need to invest in the new energy economy.”

- Ralph Izzo  
*Chairman, President and CEO of PSEG*

"I'm glad the climate bill includes my proposal for a moratorium on any new drilling, until we know what happened aboard the Deepwater Horizon...If you remember, we passed a law in 2006 that keeps drilling well offshore in the Gulf. And the climate change bill doesn't touch that."

- Senator Bill Nelson

“NFU has long supported legislation that provides an opportunity for agriculture to play a positive role in addressing our climate and energy needs. The discussion draft announced today by Senator Kerry and Senator Lieberman continues along that path. The Senators and their staff have produced legislation that recognizes the key role of Agriculture in mitigating greenhouse gases, strongly supports the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s role in overseeing and administering agriculture offsets and provides agriculture an exemption from EPA regulation for carbon pollution. We strongly support economic incentives from the climate change bill to enable agriculture to play a positive role.”

- Roger Johnson  
*President, National Farmers Union*

“America has a tremendous opportunity to transform our economy and create millions of clean energy jobs while reducing our dangerous dependence on oil. The release of the American Power Act today is an important milestone, and I commend Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their hard work and their commitment to this crucial effort. The need for action is urgent, and I look forward to working with all my colleagues to perfect this legislation and move it forward.”

- Senator Barbara Boxer  
*Chairman of the Senate Committee on  
Environment and Public Works*

“Today is an important milestone for comprehensive clean energy and climate change legislation in the Senate. This draft bill, combined with the work of Senator Bingaman’s Energy Committee and our work on the Senate Environment Committee, shows the growing momentum for a ‘do it all, do it right’ clean energy policy that will create jobs, make us more energy independent, and reduce pollution. The most important thing, however, is for the Senate to work on comprehensive clean energy policy this year free of partisan obstruction and delaying tactics.”

- Senator Tom Udall

"Comprehensive energy and climate policy that includes a clear market based price signal for carbon that rewards innovation is key for companies across the country to accelerate our transition to a sustainable clean energy infrastructure and market. The leadership of these Senators is critical to our success in bringing to bear investments in new technologies that will create new American jobs."

- Martin Lagod  
*Managing Director and co-Founder of Firelake  
Capital Management LLC.*

“The substantive structure provided by Senators Kerry and Lieberman will allow the US Senate to begin the discussion around a long term energy policy – one that strengthens our country by

reducing our dependence on foreign oil, creating new American jobs, and supporting energy intensive industries in a smooth transition to the clean energy economy of the future.”

- Jack Oswald  
*CEO of SynGest Inc.*

"Today's release of the American Power Act moves the Senate closer to passing a comprehensive climate and energy bill in the next couple of months. We applaud the tireless leadership of Senators Kerry and Lieberman in crafting legislation that curbs dangerous carbon pollution and lays the foundation for a new clean energy economy. The American Power Act represents a significant step in the right direction as it establishes mandatory limits on carbon pollution that reduce emissions 17% by 2020 and 80% by 2050."

- Gene Karpinski President  
*League of Conservation Voters*

"This framework puts America on a clear pathway to create a vibrant, innovative clean energy economy to lead the next great global industrial revolution. NRG's planned construction of new nuclear generation would employ 6,000 workers and drive billions of dollars in additional American business spend. When this bill becomes law, it will call forth thousands more clean energy projects, right here at home."

- David Crane  
*President and CEO of NRG Energy, Inc.*

"The catastrophic event in the Gulf Coast is a tragedy that serves as a reminder that we need to accelerate our transition to a clean energy economy. This framework will allow companies to continue to develop and bring to scale innovative, low carbon technologies to ensure our country's energy security."

- Jonathan Wolfson  
*CEO and co-founder of Solazyme, Inc.*

"We cannot afford further delay in adopting a national policy that addresses our many energy-related challenges. We call on members of Congress to work together constructively across the aisle to pass this prudent and carefully balanced legislation this year. There have been few instances in our nation's history when legislators have the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy - to have the appendage 'statesman' added to their names by appreciative future generations. This is one of those rare occasions."

- Rob Sisson  
*President, Republicans for Environmental Protection*

"I am proud of what my Senator from Massachusetts is doing today. This legislation holds one of the keys to meaningfully accelerate the transition to clean energy solutions for transportation and the grid, which will increase our energy security and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. From the perspective of a leading U.S.-based advanced battery company that is creating thousands of new U.S. jobs for the 21st Century, this legislation points the way to put America back in control of its energy future. All those who understand this imperative need to let their voices be heard now in support of Senator Kerry's and Lieberman's tireless efforts."

- David Vieau  
*President and CEO, A123Systems*

"Exelon commends Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their leadership in crafting federal climate legislation to address the nation's energy security, jobs and environmental goals. We are pleased that the draft bill announced today by Senators Kerry and Lieberman proposes a system for putting a price on carbon, which will use market forces to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the lowest possible cost, as well as a firm price collar to protect consumers. As the nation's largest nuclear operator, Exelon also appreciates that the senators have recognized nuclear power as a low-emission source of baseload electricity with an important role to play in the country's transition to a low-carbon economy."

- John W. Rowe  
*Chairman & CEO, Exelon*

"National policy – including an effective price on carbon and a strong, nationwide clean energy standard – is needed to drive increased investment, which in turn creates new technologies and jobs."

- Jeff Immelt  
*Chairman and CEO, General Electric*

"Today's action by Senators John Kerry (Mass.) and Joe Lieberman (Conn.) jumpstarts the Senate debate over America's energy future. Their unwavering leadership has been critical to the progress made thus far. Every day the Senate fails to pass comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation we put our economy, our national security and our environment at greater risk. Inaction is too costly, and the challenge is too urgent. The Gulf Coast oil catastrophe is yet another reminder that the United States must reduce its dependence on oil to protect our security, economy and environment. The millions of Americans we represent demand a Senate vote on comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation. President Obama and leaders of both parties in Congress must provide the leadership necessary to develop a clean energy and climate solution that becomes law this year."

- *Statement from Alliance for Climate Protection, Audubon, Center for American Progress Action Fund, Climate Solutions, Defenders of Wildlife,*

*ENE (Environment Northeast), Environment America, Environmental Defense Fund, Environmental Law and Policy Center, Fresh Energy, Green For All, League of Conservation Voters, National Tribal Environmental Council, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Oxfam America, Sierra Club, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, The Wilderness Society, Union of Concerned Scientists, World Wildlife Fund*

"The nuclear-related provisions of this legislation provide a solid platform for the expansion of nuclear energy to meet our electricity needs, create thousands of jobs and help achieve the desired reductions of greenhouse gas emissions. I applaud Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their collaborative work on this legislation and for seeking input from a variety of interested parties to craft this proposal. We believe there is solid consensus on the need for, and the value of, the nuclear energy provisions in this proposal."

- Marvin Fertel  
*President and CEO, Nuclear Energy Institute*

"If businesses have a clear price signal, they will respond by creating innovative new solutions to our climate and energy problems. I applaud the effort to put a price on carbon this year. It is time for our country to be a leader in the new, low-carbon economy."

- Jeffrey Swartz  
*President and CEO, The Timberland Company*

"Smart, bold and comprehensive climate and energy legislation will reduce our dependence on oil, increase our nation's security and create jobs. What's more, it will ensure that we remain competitive in the clean technology revolution taking place around the world. We must not miss this opportunity to help unlock a clean and prosperous future for America."

- Amy Davidsen  
*US Executive Director, The Climate Group*

"Nike has long advocated for Congress to pass a comprehensive climate and energy policy because we believe it's a pathway to environmental progress, economic growth and stimulating innovation. Business needs certainty and a level playing field to help spur green jobs and unlock innovation essential to creating technology and infrastructure solutions for a sustainable future. We applaud Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their leadership and introduction of this important legislation and stand ready to support along with our BICEP coalition members."

- Hannah Jones

*Vice President of Sustainable Business and  
Innovation, Nike*

“Operation Free is very encouraged by today’s announcement. Our massive transfer of wealth to gulf nations to pay for oil is a destabilizing force, enriching some of our most dangerous enemies there and around the world. Taking a strong stance on carbon pollution could deprive Iran, one of the world’s most aggressive and unpredictable nations, of up to \$100 million a day. Given their record of hostility to us and our allies, we can’t afford to allow them even one more dime.”

- Jonathan Murray  
*Operation Free Campaign Director and former  
US Marine*

“Many in the national security community are standing squarely behind this legislation because the connection between our safety and energy could not be more clear. Controlling our energy future means a safer America, a stronger military, and a robust and growing economy here at home. America can and must lead by example in this, one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century.”

- Jonathan Powers  
*COO of the Truman National Security Project*

"This isn't an environmental issue, this is a security issue. Our strategic interests, and therefore our national security and the safety of Americans, are threatened by climate change and our continuing dependence on oil. Military leaders know this isn't about polar bears and ice caps, it's about international stability and national security.”

- Lt. General John G. Castellaw  
*US Army, Retired*

“We make a profound strategic error if we underestimate the impact that climate has on regional and international stability. Some of our most worrisome trouble spots around the world are dangerous because of a combination of climate problems and social unrest – Somalia, Nigeria, and Yemen are strong examples. Congress must pass this legislation to make the world a safer place.”

- Major General Paul Monroe  
*US Army, Retired*

“By opting for renewable energy over fossil-based sources, customers currently have the power to reduce their carbon footprint and overall impact on the environment. We look forward to continuing to work with Senators Kerry and Lieberman to ensure that this bill preserves the



ability of individuals, companies, and government agencies to make meaningful choices about their electricity supply.”

- Jay Carlis  
*President, the Renewable Energy Markets Association*

“Senators Kerry and Lieberman are to be commended for their leadership in introducing meaningful climate change legislation, and, in doing so, helping the United States take a major step forward in solving the biggest challenge of our time. With vital assistance from Senator Graham, Senators Kerry and Lieberman have provided the Senate with an excellent proposal for a comprehensive legislative package that will reduce our country’s greenhouse gas emissions. Entergy supports the bill’s market-based approach, which will put a price on carbon dioxide. This is the most effective and efficient way of achieving reduction of greenhouse gasses and spurring innovation and investment into new carbon-reducing technologies.”

- J. Wayne Leonard  
*Chairman and CEO, Entergy Corporation*

“We applaud Senators Kerry and Lieberman for developing legislation that focuses on increasing our nation’s energy independence over time, establishing the U.S. as a world leader in the clean energy economy, and reducing carbon pollution. Importantly, the legislation incorporates many measures to protect energy consumers by containing costs during the transition to a low carbon economy. It also provides business with the incentives, clarity and support needed to spur investment in new technologies, We look forward to working with Senators Kerry and Lieberman and others in the Senate to complete work on a bill this year.”

- Peter Darbee  
*Chairman, CEO and President, PG&E Corporation*

“DuPont applauds the leadership of Senators Kerry and Lieberman in taking an important step forward towards the enactment of clean energy and climate legislation that is environmentally effective and economically sustainable. We appreciate that their bill reflects the tireless efforts of Senator Graham and intend to work with senators on both sides of the aisle to achieve bipartisan legislation that can pass the Senate. We look forward to working with Senator Brown and Midwestern members in particular to ensure that the bill supports a vibrant manufacturing industry we also will continue to work with the Senate on critical issues to American agriculture in the legislation. We urge all senators to engage on this important issue.”

- Ellen Kullman  
*Chairman and CEO, DuPont*

“Shell commends Senators Kerry and Lieberman for introducing an energy and climate bill designed to strengthen our economy, create jobs and enhance our energy security while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This legislation ensures America’s global competitiveness and recognizes the role clean natural gas can play in growing the economy and protecting the environment. The senators have taken a fresh approach to transportation emissions that encourages the development of home-grown energy, provides transparency for consumers and enables American refiners to compete against imports of diesel and gasoline.”

- Statement by Shell Oil

“We are pleased to see that the Kerry--Lieberman draft legislation recognizes the critical importance of protecting low-income households. The low-income refunds in this legislation, which are delivered using proven and efficient mechanisms, should ensure that the typical household in the poorest 20 percent of the population does not suffer a financial loss as a result of the policies necessary for a clean energy economy and greater energy security.”

- Bob Greenstein  
*Executive Director, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*

“Senators Kerry and Lieberman’s energy bill will create jobs, protect electricity consumers, make our nation more energy independent, and protect our environment. Their leadership – and the efforts of Senator Lindsey Graham to craft this legislation – is extraordinary. The legislation can help the U.S. get its economic “mojo” back. It also sends a clear signal to our nation’s innovators that there will be markets for their products and services. The sooner senators from both parties weigh in to constructively debate and move this legislation forward, the faster the private sector can put people to work and help get our economy moving again.”

- Jim Rogers  
*Chairman, President and CEO, Duke Energy*

“Dow Corning is encouraged by the outline unveiled today by Senators Kerry and Lieberman and we look forward to participating in the process that ultimately results in a comprehensive energy bill. Dow Corning employees are coming to work every day, energized to be part of the energy security and environmental sustainability solution that we as a nation must achieve. We are thankful for the leadership which Senators Kerry and Lieberman have demonstrated thus far, and hopeful that Congress will continue to do its part by enacting policies and incentives to encourage the private sector to be an equal partner in developing and enacting this solution.

- Stephanie A. Burns  
*Chairman, President and CEO, Dow Corning*

“The Nature Conservancy commends Senators Kerry and Lieberman on this serious effort to address the energy and environmental challenges facing America and the world. The broad

array of stakeholders engaged in developing this bill shows that the United States can develop a clean energy future that strengthens our economy, conserves our natural resources, combats climate change, and enhances our national security. We call on the Senate to seize this moment and work to put in place a solution that can lift America's economy, preserve our natural heritage, and show leadership to the world on the linked challenges of stabilizing the Earth's climate, protecting our oceans from acidification, keeping the world's forests standing, and ensuring our natural resources stay healthy and productive."

- Mark Tercek,  
*President and CEO, The Nature Conservancy,*

"We appreciate the work Senators Kerry and Lieberman have done to advance a cleaner, more secure energy future for the United States. While continuing to review the proposal, we look forward to working with members of the Senate, and all stakeholders, to ensure that any legislation capitalizes on the vast potential clean, American natural gas has to fuel our nation's power plants, industrial plants and vehicles. It is time we put it to greater use for our nation's economy, environment and security."

- Regina Hopper  
*President and CEO, America's Natural Gas Alliance*

"On behalf of the BCSE, I commend Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their commitment to addressing our nation's most crucial challenges--energy security, economic growth, and environmental sustainability. Given the proper regulatory certainty and long-term market signals, America's energy efficiency, renewable energy, and natural gas industries stand ready to reinvigorate our nation's manufacturing sector, firmly establish the US as the global leader in clean energy technologies, and put Americans to work. We look forward to analyzing the proposal in greater detail and working with Congress to enact comprehensive energy and climate change policy this year."

- Lisa Jacobson  
*President, The Business Council for Sustainable Energy*

"Senators Kerry and Lieberman deserve tremendous credit for crafting a proposal that would move the country in the right direction on energy and climate issues. If we are to continue to lead the world in technological advances, job creation and economic security, we need a new approach. The most essential step – which is at the heart of the American Power Act – is to set a price on carbon dioxide emissions. No legislation is ever perfect, this bill included, but Sens. Kerry and Lieberman have shown true leadership in their efforts to reach a balanced solution that all parties to this debate should be able to support. We applaud their efforts and look

forward to working with them to get a bill signed into law.”

- Lew Hay  
*Chairman and CEO, FPL Group*

“BICEP companies applaud Senators Kerry and Lieberman -- along with Senator Graham who contributed so much to shaping this bill -- for moving the Senate so far toward vital climate and energy legislation. It's a significant step forward and contains several key elements in BICEP's core principles, including major limits on greenhouse gas emissions and crucial initiatives to increase renewable energy and energy efficiency. Now is the time, with a large and growing bipartisan coalition from the business, national security, faith and environmental communities in place, to pass a strong bill that creates many thousands of clean energy jobs, puts our country on the path to energy independence and places a meaningful ceiling on carbon pollution.”

- Statement from the Business for Innovative Climate & Energy Policy

"Natural gas transportation fuel is a cleaner, cheaper, and domestic alternative to our ever-increasing dependence on foreign, particularly OPEC, oil. We applaud Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their efforts to move forward with a broad energy package that includes replacing imported petroleum products with natural gas in America's vehicle fleets"

- Andrew Littlefair  
*President and CEO, Clean Energy Fuels Corp.*

“I commend Senators Kerry and Lieberman for their work and appreciate the step taken today in making public their proposed legislation. If the United States is to be a competitor in the global economy, we simply must come together on a national energy and climate strategy. It’s critical that Congress act quickly. We need to show the rest of the world that, as a nation, we're committed to tackling the challenges of climate change head-on while promoting a clean economy that grows jobs and improves our environment.”

- Chris Gregoire  
*Governor of Washington*

“Our public lands are threatened by the wanton discharge of global warming pollutants into the air, a dangerous that practice needs to be stopped. The bill from Senators Kerry and Lieberman is a welcome and important step to advance this critical debate.”

- William H. Meadow  
*President, The Wilderness Society*

“The Senators have to be applauded for their hard work in developing this bill, one that we support and which we hope will move forward soon. The time has come to invest in and build a cleaner energy future for our country. A comprehensive federal energy and climate policy will create jobs, propel economic growth and help secure the country’s energy future. And most importantly, as we move to a clean energy future, customers must be protected – and this proposal announced today does that. Other nations are moving forward quickly to embrace emerging clean energy technologies and tackling climate change. Now is the time to act, to revitalize our economy and to get these ‘rules of the road’ in place and provide certainty so business can invest and create jobs. We should be competing globally on energy matters, and the bill unveiled today gives America the opportunity to do just that.”

- Tom King  
*President, National Grid*

“I am encouraged by this new effort by Senators Kerry and Lieberman to address the challenges of clean energy and climate change at the federal level with a comprehensive energy policy. I continue to believe we need a bipartisan, national climate change commitment that will reduce our dependence on oil, protect our environment, grow our economy and put Americans back to work.”

- Arnold Schwarzenegger  
*Governor of California*

“We praise Sens. John Kerry and Joseph Lieberman for their leadership in pushing for legislation that will ensure our nation’s energy independence, and when reconciled with the Waxman-Markey bill in the House, will play a critical role in protecting tropical forests and all their biodiversity. The new legislation contains essential language designed to manage the negative impacts of climate change on natural resources within the United States and abroad.”

- John Calvelli  
*Executive Vice President of Public Affairs,  
Wildlife Conservation Society*

“The Clean Energy Group’s Clean Air Policy Initiative congratulates Senators John Kerry and Joseph Lieberman on the release of the American Power Act, and we continue to support passing a comprehensive energy and climate change bill this Congress. We greatly appreciate the Senators’ efforts to craft a comprehensive bill that addresses our nation’s need to reduce our dependence on foreign energy sources and to put the U.S. on a path toward significantly reducing carbon emissions and becoming a world leader in clean energy technologies. Enactment of the bill would provide a stable environment in which companies can make investments in low-carbon technologies, which will create important new jobs and also recognizes the need to protect our residential and business customers during the transition. We appreciate the emphasis of the bill on protecting customers. In the end, having Congress pass a

climate and energy bill this year would accomplish our primary objective – placing a price on carbon that begins that transition to a low-carbon economy.”

- Statement from the Clean Energy Group

“The disastrous spill in the gulf serves as a reminder that we can no longer delay development of a comprehensive energy policy that achieves fuel diversity and puts a price on carbon. PSEG is ready to make significant investments that would help combat climate change, but we need the regulatory certainty that the passage of this legislation would provide. There are three key issues we believe are critical to success – and from what I understand, the legislation gets these critical issues right. First, we need a single, national approach to climate change that acknowledges that contributions are needed across the entire economy. Second, reducing carbon will increase energy costs and we need to minimize the impact on utility customers. This bill does that. And finally, we need to guard against unanticipated developments. It appears that this bill includes safeguards, such as a price collar, that significantly reduce the risk posed by unforeseen events. The legislation introduced today was the result of a great deal of hard work, and it has the power to unleash a wave of pent up investment and create desperately needed commerce and jobs.”

- Ralph Izzo  
*Chairman, Public Service Enterprise Group*

“In the weeks ahead, we will be given the opportunity to change the direction of our environment, economy and national security. The American Power Act has given us all that opportunity – business and labor, Democrats and Republicans, young and old – to finally transform this nation from energy dependence to independence, from an energy lagger to leader, and from an energy importer to exporter. In the process, millions of high-paying jobs will be created here in America. Senators Kerry and Lieberman have drafted a timely piece of legislation. The American Power Act will not only clean up our energy infrastructure and strengthen national security by allowing us to pull away from dependence on oil from hostile nations, it will put people back to work, which is central in our government’s efforts to strengthen the economy. I would ask that everyone consider - ‘Can we afford NOT to pass this bill?’ Time cannot be squandered. This may be our last call to act. We need to make it happen now. It’s not only the right thing to do – it’s the right time to do it.”

- William Hite  
*President, United Association*